concerning SSIs as well as matters related to customs and excise for consideration of Government.

(b) and (c) The promotion of SSIs has been a conscious policy of Government. Government have announced a comprehensive policy package on 30th August, 2000 to strengthen the SSI sector and to enhance its competitiveness both globally and domestically. The policy package provides for *inter-alia* easier access to credit, availability of collateral free composite loans upto Rs. 25 lakhs, capital subsidy for technology upgradation and improved infrastructure. Further action, in respect of the issues raised from time to time, is a continuous exercise, as various Ministries/agencies of Government are involved in resolving these issues.

Development and extension of SSIs

†1035. SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN':
SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that target has been fixed for development and extension of the small scale industries during the Tenth Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, what would be the anticipated number of small scale industries functioning in the country at the end of the Plan;

(c) the number of people likely to be provided with jobs in such industries; and

(d) the number of people employed in small scale industries at the beginning of the Plan?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) to (d) The Central Government does not fix target for development and extension of small scale industries in the country. However, projections for each Five Year Plan are made. As per the report of the Working Group on Small Scale Industries for the Tenth Five Year Plan, the projections for the anticipated number of small scale industries functioning and number of people likely to be provided with job at the beginning and at the end of the Plan are as under :—

Tenth Five Year Plan	Anticipated number of small scale industries functioning	No. of people likely to be provided job
Beginning of Tenth Five Year Plan (i.e. by the end of Ninth Plan 2001-02)	35.13 lakhs nos.	193.07 lakhs nos.
At the end of Tenth Five Year Plan (2002-07)	43.78 lakshs nos.	237.17 lakhs nos.

Employment in Small Scale Industries

1036. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to generate employment opportunities and promote small scale industries;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?